

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

REVIEW CRITERIA
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1993

CRITERIA NUMBER 25 - CAUDA EQUINA SYNDROME

I. Narrative Description:

- A. Lumbar:
1. Laminectomy
 2. Discectomy
 3. Micro-Discectomy

II. History/Symptoms:

- A. Sudden onset or rapid progression of sensory symptoms

AND

III. Physical Findings:

- A. Must meet one of the following:
1. Neurologic exam showing:
 - a. Deficit that is bilateral; **or**
 - b. Involves multiple neurologic levels

AND

IV. Diagnostic Testing:

- A. Must meet one of the following:
1. CT scan; **or**
 2. MRI; **or**
 3. Myelogram
- B. Positive finding demonstrating a large lesion producing central-stenosis with tight obstruction.

V. Special Instructions:

- A. *Early surgical intervention.*

VI. Level of Care Required:

- A. *Inpatient*